

## Message Text

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71

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 CU-04 RSR-01 /127 W

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R 161500Z JUL 73

FM AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3562

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 816

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E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 12/31/73

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SF

SUBJ: PASSPORT REFUSED TO PROMINENT COLORED CRICKET LEADER  
RAISES STORM

1. SUMMARY: SAG AND PARTICULARLY INTERIOR MINISTER DR. CONNIE MULDER ARE BEING SUBJECTED TO STRONG CRITICISM FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT'S JULY 13 REFUSAL OF PASSPORT TO HASSAN HOWA, COLORED PRESIDENT OF SOUTH AFRICAN CRICKET BOARD OF CONTROL (SACBOC) AND REFUSAL OF VISA TO DUTCH THEOLOGIAN HENDRIKUS BERKHOF. ONCE AGAIN CRITICS OF THESE ACTION SAY THEY ARE DOING SOUTH AFRICA FAR MORE HARM THAN ALLOWING THOSE CONCERNED TO TRAVEL COULD POSSIBLY DO.

2. HOWA PLANNED DEPART CAPE TOWN JULY 16 TO VISIT VARIOUS COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES AND UNITED STATES TO LINE UP SUPPORT FROM DELEGATES FOR HIS ADMISSION AS OBSERVER TO INTERNATIONAL CRICKET CONFERENCE MEETING NEXT MONTH IN LONDON. HOWA CLAIMS INTENTION WAS TO FIGHT FOR ADMISSION OF SOUTH AFRICA INTO INTERNATIONAL CRICKET "NOT FOR ADMISSION OF SO-CALLED NON-WHITES OR READMISSION OF WHITES". UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THIS MEANT ADMISSION VIA  
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SACBOC WHICH ALTHOUGH NON-RACIAL IS PREDOMINANTLY COLORED IN

MEMBERSHIP. HOWA SAID HE HAD NEVER CONCERNED HIMSELF WITH POLITICS AND WAS NOT GOING TO MAKE ANTI-SOUTH AFRICAN STATEMENTS.

3. HEAVY CRITICISM OF MULDER OVER HOWA CASE AND OVER REFUSAL OF VISA TO BERKHOF (WHO WAS TO ADDRESS THEOLOGICAL WORKSHOP IN PRETORIA) HAS COME FROM VARIETY OF SOURCES. HOWA HIMSELF SAID HE FELT DECISION SHOWED "A CERTAIN IMMATURITY. IT SEEMS THEY PREFER BOOT-LICKING STOOGES TO PEOPLE WHO STAND UP AND SAY WHAT THEY FEEL." BOON WALLACE, PRESIDENT OF WHITE SOUTH AFRICAN CRICKET ASSOCIATION, WHO NEGOTIATED FRUITLESSLY FOR MONTHS WITH HOWA AND AFRICAN CRICKET BOARD TO FORM A UNITED CRICKET COUNCIL, STATED DECISION CAN ONLY DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD. OVERSEAS CRICKETERS, HE ADDED, ARE LIKELY TO THINK SOMETHING IS BEING COVERED UP. PROGRESSIVE PARTY LEADER COLIN EGLIN ACCUSED GOVERNMENT OF STRIKING AT A BLACK SPORTSMAN SIMPLY BECAUSE HE IS NOT PREPARED TO TOE THEIR RACIST LINE. WHITE SPORTS REPORTERS WHO STRONGLY OPPOSE HOWA'S CRICKET TACTICS DEPLORED REFUSAL ALLOW HIM TO EXPOUND HIS VIEWS FREELY. ONE WROTE THAT MULDER HAS MANAGED TO MAKE HOWA SOMETHING OF A MARTYR AND GET WORSE PUBLICITY FOR SA THAN IF HOWA HAD STAGE-MANAGED WHOLE THING HIMSELF. (COMMENT: HOWA HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO CRITICISM EVEN AMONG SOME COLOREDS FOR HIS STUBBORN REFUSAL TO COMPROMISE PARTIALLY IN EFFORT GET SA BACK INTO WORLD CRICKET. HE INSISTS THERE MUST BE MULTI-RACIAL AT ALL LEVELS WITHIN SA.)

4. JOHANNESBURG SUNDAY TIMES AND CAPE TIMES, WHILE DEPLORING MULDER'S ACTIONS, SAW THEM AS SWING TO RIGHT IN EFFORT TO BOLSTER HIS FOLLOWING AMONG NATIONALISTS AS HEIR APPARENT TO PRIMIN VORSTER. ARGUS CONCLUDED GOVERNMENT MOVES SUCH AS THOSE IN ABOVE TWO CASES WILL MAKE IMPOSSIBLE ESSENTIAL TASK OF FINDING FRIENDS FOR SOUTH AFRICA IN THE WORLD COMMUNITY. CAPE NATIONALIST DIE BURGER ASKED GOVERNMENT TO HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT ONE OF MOST SENSITIVE AREAS OF COUNTRY'S ADMINISTRATION WHILE NAT SUNDAY PAPER RAPPORT ALLEGED SOME NATIONALISTS WERE DEEPLY DIVIDED OVER POSSIBLE DAMAGE CAUSED BY BERKHOF AND HOWA CASES. IT ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE MORE REASONS FOR REFUSALS THAN CAN BE MADE KNOWN AT PRESENT.

5. COMMENT: UNLESS SAG HAS MUCH MORE CONVINCING REASONS FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFUSALS THAN MEET THE EYE AND IS PREPARED TO MAKE THEM PUBLIC, IT APPEARS ONCE AGAIN THAT REFUSAL TO LET MODERATE CITIZEN CRITICS OUT OR ALLOW SEEMINGLY MILD TYPE OF CRITICS IN WILL DO SOUTH AFRICA FAR MORE DAMAGE IN EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE THAN ALLOWING THEM TO TRAVEL COULD POSSIBLY ACCOMPLISH.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973CAPET00499  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** CAPE TOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 113  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14-Jan-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <01-Feb-2002 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PASSPORT REFUSED TO PROMINENT COLORED CRICKET LEADER RAISES STORM  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, SF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005